

CL-9622

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of

Katsuhisa Satoh

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith

Examiner: Unknown

For: DISC PLAYER

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits and calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:****Please amend the claims as follows:**

4. (Amended) The disc player as claimed in claim 2, wherein fit members which are provided to said step plate and said clamp plate and engaged with said cam grooves of said cam plate comprise fit pawls that are integrally formed by bending and erecting.

5. (Amended) The disc player as claimed in claim 2, wherein said fit pawls of said step plate and said clamp plate are integrally formed by bending and erecting in a forming process thereof.

6. (Amended) The disc player as claimed in claim 1, wherein said positioning unit is designed so as to position plural kinds of discs that are different in size.

CL-9622

7. (Amended) The disc player as claimed in claim 1, wherein said positioning unit has a step plate, a G plate which is freely rotatably provided to said step plate and has, at one end thereof, a disc stopper on which a disc can be supported, and a sensor arm having, at one end thereof, an arm rod that can be fitted to the disc, the fitting positions of the other ends of said G plate and said sensor arm being changeable in accordance with plural discs different in diameter so that the discs can be positioned.

8. (Amended) The disc player as claimed in claim 1, wherein the moving amounts of said positioning unit and said clamper unit are set to different values.

10. (Amended) The disc player as claimed in claim 8, wherein the moving amount of said positioning unit is set so that a vibration-isolation stroke can be kept, and the moving amount of said clamper unit is set so that the vibration-isolation stroke can be kept and the clearance between said clamper unit and said clamper ring for clamping said disc onto said turntable can be kept.

**Please add claims 11 - 20 as follows:**

-- 11. (New) The disc player as claimed in claim 3, wherein fit members which are provided to said step plate and said clamp plate and engaged with said cam grooves of said cam plate comprise fit pawls that are integrally formed by bending and erecting.

12. (New) The disc player as claimed in claim 3, wherein said fit pawls of said step plate and said clamp plate are integrally formed by bending and erecting in a forming process thereof.

13. (New) The disc player as claimed in claim 4, wherein said fit pawls of said step plate and said clamp plate are integrally formed by bending and erecting in a forming process thereof.

14. (New) The disc player as claimed in claim 2, wherein said positioning unit is designed so as to position plural kinds of discs that are different in size.

15. (New) The disc player as claimed in claim 3, wherein said positioning unit is designed so as to position plural kinds of discs that are different in size.

16. (New) The disc player as claimed in claim 2, wherein said positioning unit has a step plate, a G plate which is freely rotatably provided to said step plate and has, at one end thereof, a disc stopper on which a disc can be supported, and a sensor arm having, at one end thereof, an arm rod that can be fitted to the disc, the fitting positions of the other ends of said G plate and said sensor arm being changeable in accordance with plural discs different in diameter so that the discs can be positioned.

17. (New) The disc player as claimed in claim 3, wherein said positioning unit has a step plate, a G plate which is freely rotatably provided to said step plate and has, at one end thereof, a disc stopper on which a disc can be supported, and a sensor arm having, at one end thereof, an arm rod that can be fitted to the disc, the fitting positions of the other ends of said G plate and said sensor arm being changeable in accordance with plural discs different in diameter so that the discs can be positioned.

CL-9622

18. (New) The disc player as claimed in claim 2, wherein the moving amounts of said positioning unit and said clamper unit are set to different values.

19. (New) The disc player as claimed in claim 3, wherein the moving amounts of said positioning unit and said clamper unit are set to different values.

20. (New) The disc player as claimed in claim 9, wherein the moving amount of said positioning unit is set so that a vibration-isolation stroke can be kept, and the moving amount of said clamper unit is set so that the vibration-isolation stroke can be kept and the clearance between said clamper unit and said clamper ring for clamping said disc onto said turntable can be kept.- -

CL-9622

**REMARKS**

Claims 4-8 and 10 have been amended to delete multiple-dependency and claims 11 - 20 have been added accordingly.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current Amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

Early, favorable prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully submitted,



Sean M. McGinn  
Registration No.: 34,386

Date: January 18, 2002  
McGinn & Gibb, PLLC  
8321 Old Courthouse Road; Suite 200  
Vienna, Virginia 22182-3817  
(703) 761-4100  
Customer No. 21254

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**In the claims:**

4. (Amended) The disc player as claimed in claim 2 [or 3], wherein fit members which are provided to said step plate and said clamp plate and engaged with said cam grooves of said cam plate [are] comprise fit pawls that are integrally formed by bending and erecting.
5. (Amended) The disc player as claimed in [any one of claims 2 to 4] claim 2, wherein said fit pawls of said step plate and said clamp plate are integrally formed by bending and erecting in a forming process thereof.
6. (Amended) The disc player as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 5] claim 1, wherein said positioning unit is designed so as to position plural kinds of discs that are different in size.
7. (Amended) The disc player as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 6] claim 1, wherein said positioning unit has a step plate, a G plate which is freely rotatably provided to said step plate and has, at one end thereof, a disc stopper on which a disc can be supported, and a sensor arm having, at one end thereof, an arm rod that can be fitted to the disc, the fitting positions of the other ends of said G plate and said sensor arm being changeable in accordance with plural discs different in diameter so that the discs can be positioned.
8. (Amended) The disc player as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 7] claim 1, wherein the moving amounts of said positioning unit and said clamper unit are set to different values.

CL-9622

10. (Amended) The disc player as claimed in claim 8 [or 9], wherein the moving amount of said positioning unit is set so that a vibration-isolation stroke can be kept, and the moving amount of said clamper unit is set so that the vibration-isolation stroke can be kept and the clearance between said clamper unit and said clamper ring for clamping said disc onto said turntable can be kept.